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- c) employing at least one of the separate batches for the preparation of at least one production batch for the production of at least one biological,
 - d) employing at least another of the separate batches as a seed for the preparation of at least one subsequent preproduction batch,
 - e) optionally culturing the cells of the subsequent preproduction batch to obtain a greater cell population,
 - f) optionally repeating b) to e), using the cells of the subsequent preproduction batch of d) or e) for the preproduction batch of b).

2 (Twice amended). A method according to claim 1 wherein:

- a) a part of the cells of the preproduction batch is transferred to be used for the preparation of at least one production batch, and
- b) the remaining part of the cells of the preproduction batch is transferred to be used as a seed for the preparation of at least one subsequent preproduction batch.

12
10. (Twice Amended). The method according to Claim 9, wherein the anchorage dependent cells are derived from hamsters, monkeys, bovines, canines, humans, or chickens.

13
25 (Amended). The method according to Claim 1, wherein the cells are frozen at a temperature of less than -80 degrees C in bulk, and thawed prior to use.

Please add the following new claim:

26 (New). The method according to Claim 10, wherein:

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- a) the cells derived from hamsters are CHO or BHK-1 cells;
 - b) the cells derived from monkeys are Vero cells;
 - c) the cells derived from bovines are MDBK cells;
 - d) the cells derived from canines are MDCK cells;
 - e) the cells derived from humans are CaCo or A431 cells; or
 - f) the cells derived from chickens are CEF cells.

REMARKS

Applicant is filing this Preliminary Amendment as a submission to accompany the Request for Continued Prosecution and as a response to the Advisory Action dated December 3, 2001.

Claims 1, 2, and 7-25 are pending. New claim 26 has been added and the amendments to claims 1, 2, 10, and 25 have been made to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicant regards as his invention. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the application and claims as originally filed, and in the specification at pages 2 and 4. No new matter has been added.

I. Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the pleasant telephone conversation held with Applicant's representative, Jeremy M. Stipkala, on June 24, 2002. The substance of that conversation appears in the appropriate sections below.

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